UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

IN RE PORK ANTITRUST LITIGATION

IN RE CATTLE AND BEEF ANTITRUST LITIGATION

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO: Sysco Corp. v. Agri Stats, Inc., et al., Case No. 21-cv-01374 (D. Minn.), and Sysco Corp. v. Cargill Inc., et al., Case No. 22-cv-01750 (D. Minn.)

Civil Action No. 18-cy-01776

Civil Action No. 22-md-03031

Honorable John R. Tunheim Honorable John F. Docherty

LOCAL RULE 7.1 MEET AND CONFER STATEMENT

Today, counsel for Carina Ventures LLC ("Carina") asked counsel for Defendants whether any Defendant opposes Carina's Motion for Leave to File Reply in Support of Objections to Magistrate Judge's February 9, 2024 Order Denying Joint Motion for Substitution. The *Pork* Defendants oppose Carina's request for leave. The *Beef* Defendants requested that Carina include the following response:

The Beef Defendants opposition did not raise any arguments that could not have been foreseen when Carina filed its objections, and we oppose Carina's request to file a reply brief. The rules for objections to a Magistrate Judge's order do not contemplate the filing of reply briefs. Moreover, Carina had a thorough understanding of Defendants' position by virtue of the extensive briefing and argument before Judge Docherty, and Defendants' opposition to Carina's objections simply reprised those arguments and defend Judge Docherty's decision from the lodged objections. Finally, as you know, briefs on objections are limited to 3,500 words. We see no reason why Carina—the one entity in this briefing which is not a party to the litigation—should be permitted to exceed that word limit through the filing of a reply brief, when Sysco and the Defendants have not sought enlarged briefing or the ability to file additional briefs.

Dated: March 15, 2024 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Derek T. Ho

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